

**Moore-Love, Karla**

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**From:** vicki McArdle <[vickimcardle@gmail.com](mailto:vickimcardle@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 11, 2018 11:36 AM  
**To:** Council Clerk – Testimony; vicki McArdle  
**Subject:** Testimony for the TID Tax review for Wednesday, June 13

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

Please do not go after homeowners and small businesses, keep Portland accessible to all!

My husband and I just started renting out our day light basement in our home. We live full time on the top level and rent out the basement of our home to supplement our income. We decided to do this because our property taxes are costing us more and more each year. We literally are trying to generate some extra income to keep up with it!

By taxing us like a large hotel/motel or corporate hotels/motels you are making it so those who can't afford to go to a hotel won't be able to afford coming to our little rental. The people who do rent from us spend money in Portland and therefore support Portland businesses.

We have lived in Portland for 18+ years and have seen how the cost of rent, mortgages and property taxes our forcing those long term Portland'ers to leave and some homeless. We already collect and send in lodging taxes to the city please don't add more.

Sincerely,

Vicki McArdle  
SW Portland

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Vicki McArdle

[vickimcardle.com](http://vickimcardle.com)  
503-939-4357

**Moore-Love, Karla**

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**From:** Jennings, Gayla  
**Sent:** Monday, June 11, 2018 10:46 AM  
**To:** Council Clerk – Testimony  
**Subject:** FW: Internet Association Letter on Short-Term Rental Fee Proposal.  
**Attachments:** 6-11-2018 IA Portland STR Oppose FINAL.pdf

Good morning, Council Clerk,

This testimony was received by Auditor Hull Caballero for what appears to be this Wednesday's morning time certain agenda items 626 and 627. I'm not sure if you received a separate email from Rose – my apologies if this a duplicate.

Thank you!

***Gayla Jennings***

Deputy Auditor | Office of the City Auditor  
 City of Portland, Oregon  
 Phone (503) 823-3560

**From:** Rose Feliciano [mailto:rose@internetassociation.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 11, 2018 10:14 AM  
**To:** Wheeler, Mayor <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fish <nick@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fritz <amanda@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Eudaly <chloe@portlandoregon.gov>  
**Cc:** City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>  
**Subject:** Internet Association Letter on Short-Term Rental Fee Proposal.

Dear Mayor and City Council:

Attached please find a letter from the Internet Association opposing the proposed tourism fee and \$4 per night fee on short-term rentals.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

I appreciate your consideration. R



**Rose Feliciano**

Manager, Northwest Region, State Government Affairs

C: 206.326.0712  
[rose@internetassociation.org](mailto:rose@internetassociation.org)

INTERNET ASSOCIATION  
[1809 7th Ave, Suite 608, Seattle, WA 98101](http://18097thave.com)



June 11, 2018

The Honorable Ted Wheeler  
Mayor, City of Portland  
1221 SW 4th Ave, Room 340  
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mayor Wheeler:

On behalf of Internet Association (IA), I submit this letter expressing our concerns to the City of Portland regarding the proposed draft amendment on short-term rentals. The proposed 2 percent "tourism fee" and the additional \$4 per night fee raises significant concerns for IA and our member companies.

IA represents more than 40 of the world's leading internet companies and advances public policy solutions that foster innovation, promote economic growth, and empower people through the free and open internet.

Short-term rentals demonstrate how internet-enabled innovation can fill a need for many consumers, such as families trying to supplement their income or visitors looking for affordable alternative options for their stay.

IA believes the proposed amendment is not sound public policy. The additional fees proposed by the City of Portland place an undue burden on locals who rely on short-term rental income and potential visitors. The City also appears to confuse what is a fee versus a tax. Generally, a fee is paid to get in return a service or program from a governmental entity. A tax supports general purposes for the government to run. The proposed tourism fee goes to the non-governmental "Management Corporation," and the per night charge goes toward homeless services, both of which do not directly benefit the short-term rental operators or guests. If the City of Portland wants to charge fees, it should be clear how those fees will provide a service to the operators, guests, or platforms paying for the fee.

The proposed tourism fee discriminates against internet-enabled short-term rental platforms because it subjects them to a fee that funds the promotion of hotel stays, while hotels with 49 rooms or less are not subject to the same fee. Boutique hotels are not subject to the same fee, yet they - not short-term rentals - are the ones that benefit from the funds of the tourism fee.

In addition to the questions regarding the tourism fee, IA also has concerns regarding the proposed \$4 per night fee, which is supposed to benefit an affordable housing program and other wrap-around services to reduce homelessness. Both are laudable city priorities, however short-term rental operators and guests should not be the primary funders, especially given the number of factors that feed into the housing crisis. As stated, a fee is supposed to be paid to receive a direct service. This proposal, like the tourism fee, appears to be a tax.

IA also believes the proposed tourism fee and \$4 per night fee combined make the short-term rentals less affordable and less accessible to potential visitors to Portland. Guests staying at short-term rentals are not just tourists, they also include families visiting for medical treatments or employees in town for short work assignments. Short-term rentals allow these guests to be a part of the community they otherwise would not have access to.



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For the reasons stated above, IA respectfully urges the Council to reconsider the proposed tax and fee increases. Should you have any questions regarding our position, please feel free to contact me at [rose@internetassociation.org](mailto:rose@internetassociation.org) or 206-326-0712. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*r/f*

Rose Feliciano  
Manager, State Government Affairs, Northwestern Region

cc: Members, City Council

**Moore-Love, Karla**

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**From:** Jennings, Gayla  
**Sent:** Friday, June 8, 2018 11:34 AM  
**To:** Council Clerk – Testimony  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed TID Tax and Housing Tax

Good morning, Council Clerk,

This testimony was received by Auditor Hull Caballero for what appears to be next Wednesday's morning time certain agenda items 626 and 627. I'm not sure if you received a separate email from Joy – my apologies if this a duplicate.

Thank you!

***Gayla Jennings***

Deputy Auditor | Office of the City Auditor  
City of Portland, Oregon  
Phone (503) 823-3560

**From:** Joy Campbell [mailto:joysoup@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 7, 2018 1:51 PM  
**To:** City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>  
**Subject:** Proposed TID Tax and Housing Tax

Dear Auditor Mary Hull Caballero,

As a Portland resident for 27 years, I am writing to ask that you oppose the recently proposed 2% TID charge and the \$4 housing tax.

I bought my house in Southeast Portland in 1991. It has a two bedroom apartment on the second level. Most recently it rented for \$1,400 per month. After my renter moved out of state, I retired. My social security payment is only \$774 after the Medicare deduction. I had to have my property tax deferred with interest. Obviously I had to work, and considering my health situation, few outside jobs would have been appropriate, so I decided to turn my apartment into an Airbnb and work at home.

Now I earn an average of \$2,200 per month for my Airbnb instead of \$1,400 as before. This leaves me with an additional \$800 per month. It might not seem like much, but to me it literally means that I can keep my home, and I can stay in Portland to be near my kids.

I support paying my fair share, but the TID unfairly targets those with Airbnbs. Hotels with fewer than 50 rooms do not have to pay this tax.

The \$4 per night housing tax is higher than similar fees in other cities, and twice as much as the council proposed in 2017.

I founded Belmont Station in 1997. Countless craft beer aficionados traveled here to shop at the first craft beer bottle shop in the country. I personally introduced many of them to Portland breweries, eateries, and shopping districts. It was then I realized the economic benefits for Portland from tourism, and I was proud to be a small part of that.

Now, by opening my home to travelers, I'm again able to introduce to the world what makes Portland special.

Although my Airbnb has a kitchen, travelers rarely eat here. When I clean up the apartment after each guest (which happens to be great exercise for my 70 year old body!) I find shopping bags from all over the city. Travelers spend a lot of money here.

Registering an Airbnb in Portland already requires yearly fees and payments. Additionally we have always paid 11.5% tax from earnings, sent directly to the City of Portland.

Please see that people like me who use part of their homes for an Airbnb are not treated unfairly. We work hard and for some of us, especially retired singles like myself, it is the single reason we are able to keep our homes and continue to reside in the city we love.

Joy Campbell  
317 SE 52nd Ave  
Portland, OR 97215  
(503) 502-2654